

These tax credits work. They help businesses expand and add valuable jobs. The credits need to be extended. I urge my colleagues to join us in sponsoring the New Markets Tax Credit Extension Act of 2007.

RECOGNIZING GRANT RICHARD SAMPSON FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Grant Richard Sampson, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Grant has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Grant has been involved with scouting, he has earned 31 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Librarian, Troop Guide, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Historian.

For his eagle project, Grant assisted in building two full-size soccer goals for a playground at Line Creek Elementary School. He earned the Arrow of Light and Order of the Arrow awards, and is a Foxman in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Grant Richard Sampson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING THE OSWEGO STATE MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2007 DIVISION III NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the State University of New York at Oswego (Oswego State) Lakers upon winning the 2007 NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey National Championship, the first national championship ever won by Oswego State in a team sport.

On March 18, 2007, Oswego State, which is located in my Congressional District, won the Division III National Championship when it defeated the Middlebury Panthers by a score of 4 to 3 at Wessman Arena in Superior, Wisconsin. In that game, Ryan Scott, the Lakers' East Region Second Team All American goalie, set a Division III championship game record with 47 saves and Garren Reisweber scored two goals, including the game-winning goal 12:55 into overtime. Other Lakers who recorded points in the championship game were Trevor Gilligan, Ryan Koresky, Derrell Levy, Mark Lozzi, Brendan McLaughlin, and Peter Magagna.

The Lakers team also included coaches Ed Gosek, Pete Sears, and Glenn Sisman as well

as the following players: Tony DiNunzio, Brad Dormiedy, Ryan Ellis, Francois Gagnon, Chris Hyk, Jeffrey Johnstone, Tyler Laws, Tyler Lyon, Kyle McCutcheon, Neil Musselwhite, Mike Novak, Ryan Scott, C.J. Thompson, Rick Varone, Matt Whitehead, Matt Wolf, Ryan Woodward, and Rich Zalewski.

The Lakers completed the 2007 season with a record of 23–3–3. Moreover, their coach, Ed Gosek, an Oswego native and former Lakers player, was named the 2007 Men's Division III Ice Hockey Coach of the Year. Mr. Speaker, it takes a tremendous amount of dedication, hard work, perseverance, and teamwork to win a national championship. Accordingly, I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the entire Lakers hockey team for its very significant accomplishment.

MR. PAUL HAYS—THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES READING CLERK

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the service to the House of Representatives of our reading clerk Paul Hays, who after 19 years in that position and 41 years as an employee of this House has announced that he will retire—effective Monday, April 30—and begin a new phase of his life.

The fact is, Madam Speaker, Paul Hays—with his deep, crisp, commanding voice—is perhaps more recognizable to regular viewers of C-SPAN than many of the Members of Congress who are privileged to serve here.

Since 1789, the House has employed reading clerks, who are responsible for reading aloud the text of bills, amendments, motions, messages, special rules and other privileged resolutions, and veto messages.

Our reading clerks almost always have been appointed from the ranks of existing House employees who have extensive prior floor experience.

And, Paul—a graduate of Georgetown University—is no exception.

In fact, Paul was appointed reading clerk in 1988 by my very good friend and a great public servant, the former Republican minority leader Robert Michel of Illinois.

It is no coincidence, Mr. Speaker, that—given his speaking talents—Paul intends to do voice-over work in the future.

Paul, we thank you for your service and wish you well in the future.

SOWING THE SEEDS THROUGH SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 363) to authorize appropriations for basic research and re-

search infrastructure in science and engineering, and for support of graduate fellowships, and for other purposes:

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, I submit the accompanying exchange of letters regarding H.R. 363.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2007.

Hon. BART GORDON,
Chairman, Committee on Science and Technology,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write regarding H.R. 363, which authorizes appropriations for basic research and research infrastructure in science and engineering, and for support of graduate fellowships, and for other purposes. I am concerned that certain provisions of the bill as reported may be broad enough to include applicability with respect to biomedical and behavioral research conducted or supported by the National Institutes of Health or other agencies of the Public Health Service. As you know, those matters are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

I support passage of the bill based on my understanding that you have agreed that the inaction of the Committee with respect to the bill does not in any way serve as a jurisdictional precedent as to our two committees.

Further, as to any conference on the bill, the Committee on Energy and Commerce reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees for consideration of any portions of the bill that are within the Committee's jurisdiction. It is my understanding that you have agreed to support a request by the Committee with respect to serving as conferees on the bill (or similar legislation).

I request that you send me a letter confirming our agreements as to jurisdiction, including with respect to conferees, and that our exchange of letters be included in the Congressional Record as part of the consideration of the bill.

I look forward to working with you on this important legislation. If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

JOHN D. DINGELL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2007.

Hon. JOHN D. DINGELL,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the consideration of H.R. 363, the "Sowing the Seeds Through Science and Engineering Research Act." I appreciate your support of this important legislation.

I recognize your Committee's jurisdictional interest in this area as it pertains to the National Institute of Health and other agencies of the Public Health Service. I agree that the inaction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce with respect to the bill does not in any way serve as a jurisdictional precedent as to our two committees, and I will support any request you may make to have conferees on those portions of H.R. 363, or similar legislation, that implicate the Public Health Service. The exchange of letters between our two committees will be placed in the Congressional Record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

BART GORDON,
Chairman.

GREATER MARYVILLE CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to congratulate the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce on their Centennial Anniversary. On April 23, 1907, the chamber was created when area businessmen came together to improve the economic vitality by promoting businesses and community and enhancing the quality of life in Maryville, Missouri.

The mission of the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce is to support advancing agriculture, education, industry, legislation, retail, professional services, recreation, and tourism of the City of Maryville and its surrounding area.

The City of Maryville, organized on February 14, 1845, has become the commercial, educational and entertainment center for the region by hosting such events as fairs, auto shows, and rodeos.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce and congratulate them on 100 years of service and I look forward to future celebrations.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MARKETS
TAX CREDIT BILL

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague Congressman NEAL in introducing legislation to extend New Markets Tax Credit program for an additional five years through 2013.

Originally authorized in 2000 as part of the bi-partisan Community Renewal Tax Relief Act, the New Markets Tax Credit has been successful in meeting its principal goal—namely, mobilizing capital to economically distressed urban and rural communities.

Reports from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, reveals that interest in the NMTC from the investor market continues to increase at a rapid pace. More than \$7.7 billion in new private capital has already been raised from 560 distinct investors. A recent report released by GAO indicates that 88% of investors in New Markets Tax Credit projects would not have made the same investment without the Credit.

In addition to stimulating private investment, the credit is creating jobs and financing business development in low-income communities across the United States. In my home state of Kentucky, the credit has been very active. Seven Kentucky-based community development entities (CDEs) have received credit allocations totaling \$153.5 million since 2003. One of these CDEs, Kentucky Highlands Invest-

ment Corporation, is using its \$22 million allocation to invest in health-related businesses and health care facilities in rural Kentucky. Community Ventures Corporation, also secured \$24 million in credits to invest in new and expanding businesses throughout the Commonwealth. These projects have the potential to create new jobs. To date, Community Ventures Corporation has used its credits to raise \$24 million in investment that has been deployed in businesses throughout the state and it has a pipeline of qualified businesses seeking more than \$121 million in NMTC financing that will have to wait until they can secure additional credits.

I believe the NMTC is a successful program because it brings diverse groups together—public and private sectors, investment banks and community development corporations—to attract private capital and jobs into some of the nation's most impoverished areas.

The NMTC has been successful because of the emphasis it places on community involvement. Private sector investment flows through entities like Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation and Community Ventures Corporation that are extremely knowledgeable about the communities they serve and are experienced in providing the types of patient, flexible capital which conventional lenders and investors are unable to provide directly in that market.

The NMTC continues to be a catalyst for small business development. It has fostered start-ups, technology firms, manufacturers, neighborhood retail stores, and shopping centers in low-income communities. These investments in turn have created many jobs.

In addition, the NMTC has been used to finance vital community facilities that are often lacking in poor communities—charter schools, community health centers, biotechnology campuses, employment training centers, day care facilities, as well as mixed-use commercial and housing developments. These facilities are essential to help qualified communities grow and thrive.

I am a strong believer in the potential of the New Markets Tax Credit to bring capital to communities that have traditionally been left behind. I was pleased to be one of the leaders of the campaign to extend the Credit in 109th Congress and am proud of our accomplishments during that period of time. I continue to believe that Congress should extend the New Markets Tax Credit for several years, or provide a permanent authorization. Investors, CDE's and businesses need greater certainty in planning and implementing revitalization strategies in economically distressed urban and rural communities.

For this reason, I believe this legislation takes the correct course by authorizing this program for 5 years. I urge my colleagues to join us in co-sponsoring the New Markets Tax Credit Extension Act of 2007.

WILD FREE-ROAMING HORSES AND
BURROS SALE AND SLAUGHTER
PROHIBITION

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 249, to ban the com-

mercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros.

At the beginning of the 20th century, there were an estimated 2 million wild horses and burros, but by the 1950s there were only 20,000. Today, the number of horses has increased to 32,000. The population is mainly controlled through adoption. Since 1972, almost 217,000 horses have been adopted.

This is mostly due to the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, which has sought to preserve wild horses and burros on federal lands and has made the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) responsible for their preservation.

In 2004, the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act was amended to reverse the longstanding policy that protected wild horses from being shipped off to slaughterhouses. It also removed the criminal penalties that are imposed for such actions. Seeking to correct this injustice is H.R. 249, which would once again place a prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild horses and burros.

As a compassionate society, we have an obligation to protect all animals. Some scientists have found that America's wild horses have greater genetic diversity, as compared to their domestic counterparts, due to little inbreeding.

Sadly, this bill is too late to save some horses. There have been several cases of horses that were purchased for seemingly innocuous reasons and then sent immediately to slaughter. H.R. 249 would protect the more than 8,400 horses that are in jeopardy of being slaughtered.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 249, which would restore the prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros.

RECOGNIZING MAXWELL "MAX"
WILLIAM ELDON PEPPER FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Maxwell "Max" William Eldon Pepper, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Maxwell has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Maxwell has been involved with scouting, he has earned 28 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Librarian, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Quartermaster. Maxwell is an Ordeal Member in the Order of the Arrow and a Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Maxwell "Max" William Eldon Pepper for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.